

SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE — FOURTH CALLED SESSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PROCEEDINGS

THIRD DAY

(Continued)

(Friday, December 1, 2023)

AFTER RECESS

The Senate met at 11:10 a.m. and was called to order by the President.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

On motion of Senator Zaffirini, Senators Blanco and Paxton were granted leave of absence for today on account of family business.

On motion of Senator Zaffirini, Senators Miles and Whitmire were granted leave of absence for today on account of important business.

SENATE BILL 3 WITH HOUSE AMENDMENTS

Senator Huffman called **SB 3** from the President's table for consideration of the House amendments to the bill.

The President laid the bill and the House amendments before the Senate.

Floor Amendment No. 2

Amend **SB 3** (house committee report) on page 1, line 13, between "operations" and "and", by inserting ", including the provision of assistance to local governments and local law enforcement agencies to alleviate costs associated with the enforcement and prosecution of criminal laws involving illegal entry into this state or illegal presence in this state and the detention of individuals alleged to have violated those laws,".

Floor Amendment No. 1 on Third Reading

Amend **SB 3** on third reading in SECTION 1(a) of the bill, making an appropriation, by striking "the provision of assistance to local governments and local law enforcement agencies to alleviate costs associated with the enforcement and prosecution of criminal laws involving illegal entry into this state or illegal presence in this state and the detention of individuals alleged to have violated those laws" and substituting "to provide grants to local governments and local law enforcement agencies to alleviate costs associated with an increased demand on local prosecutorial, judicial, and correctional resources".

The amendments were read.

Senator Huffman moved to concur in the House amendments to **SB 3**.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: Yeas 18, Nays 9.

Yeas: Bettencourt, Birdwell, Campbell, Creighton, Flores, Hall, Hancock, Huffman, Hughes, King, Kolkhorst, Middleton, Nichols, Parker, Perry, Schwertner, Sparks, Springer.

Nays: Alvarado, Eckhardt, Gutierrez, Hinojosa, Johnson, LaMantia, Menéndez, West, Zaffirini.

Absent-excused: Blanco, Miles, Paxton, Whitmire.

SENATE RESOLUTION 62

Senator Johnson offered the following resolution:

SR 62, In memory of Brad Jones.

JOHNSON	HANCOCK	PARKER
ALVARADO	HINOJOSA	PAXTON
BETTENCOURT	HUFFMAN	PERRY
BIRDWELL	HUGHES	SCHWERTNER
BLANCO	KING	SPARKS
CAMPBELL	KOLKHORST	SPRINGER
CREIGHTON	LAMANTIA	WEST
ECKHARDT	MENÉNDEZ	WHITMIRE
FLORES	MIDDLETON	ZAFFIRINI
GUTIERREZ	MILES	
HALL	NICHOLS	

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Johnson, **SR 62** was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

In honor of the memory of Brad Jones, the text of the resolution is printed at the end of today's *Senate Journal*.

Senator Johnson was recognized and introduced to the Senate family members of Brad Jones: his wife, Lynette; his daughter, Reagan; his sons, Logan, Greyson, and Mason; as well as Kristi Hobbs.

The Senate welcomed its guests and extended its sympathy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 69

Senator Perry offered the following resolution:

SR 69, In memory of Laura Lewis.

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Perry and by unanimous consent, the names of the Lieutenant Governor and Senators were added to the resolution as signers thereof.

On motion of Senator Perry, **SR 69** was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

In honor of the memory of Laura Lewis, the text of the resolution is printed at the end of today's *Senate Journal*.

The President announced that an honorary gavel would be presented to the family of Laura Lewis.

BILL AND RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled bill and resolutions in the presence of the Senate after the caption had been read:

SB 3 (Signed subject to Art. III, Sec. 49a, Texas Constitution).

HCR 4, HCR 6, HCR 7, HCR 8, HCR 9, HCR 10, HCR 11, HCR 12, HCR 13, HCR 14, HCR 15.

SENATE BILLS ON FIRST READING

The following bills were introduced, read first time, and referred to the committees indicated:

SB 5 by Huffman, Alvarado, Bettencourt, Birdwell, Blanco, Campbell, Creighton, Flores, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Hughes, Johnson, King, Kolkhorst, LaMantia, Middleton, Miles, Nichols, Parker, Perry, Schwertner, Sparks, Springer, West, Whitmire, Zaffirini

Relating to the school safety allotment under the Foundation School Program and the establishment of a school safety grant program; making an appropriation.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 6 by Hughes

Relating to requirements for trial in the contest of an election on a proposed constitutional amendment.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SENATE RULES SUSPENDED

(Posting Rules)

On motion of Senator Huffman and by unanimous consent, Senate Rule 11.10(a) and Senate Rule 11.18(a) were suspended in order that the Committee on Finance might meet and consider **SB 5** immediately upon adjournment in the Betty King Committee Room, 2E.20.

SENATE RULES SUSPENDED

(Posting Rules)

On motion of Senator Hughes and by unanimous consent, Senate Rule 11.10(a) and Senate Rule 11.18(a) were suspended in order that the Committee on Jurisprudence might meet and consider **SB 6** 10 minutes upon adjournment in the Betty King Committee Room, 2E.20.

RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

The following resolutions were adopted by the Senate:

Memorial Resolution

SR 70 by LaMantia and Hughes, In memory of Jesus Adalberto Lucio.

Congratulatory Resolutions

SR 65 by Eckhardt, Recognizing Hastings Humans on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

SR 66 by Eckhardt, Recognizing Louise Stefan for 60 years of service to Hastings Humans.

SR 67 by Flores, Recognizing Randy MacNaughton for his service to his community.

SR 68 by Flores, Recognizing Jessyn Rebecca Ramos on the occasion of her quinceañera.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

On motion of Senator Zaffirini and by unanimous consent, the Senate at 11:51 a.m. agreed to adjourn, in memory of Brad Jones and Laura Lewis, pending the receipt of committee reports, until 12:10 p.m. today.

ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to a previously adopted motion, the Senate at 12:09 p.m. adjourned, in memory of Brad Jones, Laura Lewis, and Jesus Adalberto Lucio, until 12:10 p.m. today.

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committee reports were received by the Secretary of the Senate in the order listed:

December 1, 2023

FINANCE — **SB 5**

JURISPRUDENCE — **SB 6**

BILL AND RESOLUTIONS ENROLLED

December 1, 2023

SB 3, SR 62, SR 65, SR 66, SR 67, SR 68, SR 69, SR 70

SENT TO COMPTROLLER

December 1, 2023

SB 3

In Memory**of****Brad Jones****Senate Resolution 62**

WHEREAS, Brad Jones, the former president and CEO of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas and an influential figure in the state's energy industry, passed away on November 8, 2023, at the age of 60; and

WHEREAS, Born on November 26, 1962, Bradley Carl Jones graduated with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Texas Tech University and earned his master's degree in business administration from The University of Texas at Arlington; his exceptional career in the energy sector spanned more than 30 years and included a notable tenure at Luminant, where he held such roles as vice president of generation development and vice president of government relations; in recognition of his leadership efforts with the company, he was honored with a Commissioners' Award from the Public Utility Commission of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones went on to join the executive team at the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, serving as senior vice president and chief operating officer from 2013 to 2015; his achievements with ERCOT led to his appointment as president and CEO of the New York Independent System Operator in 2015, and he guided that organization until retiring in 2018; and

WHEREAS, In May 2021, Mr. Jones agreed to return to ERCOT to serve as interim president and CEO; in that role, he rose to the challenge of leading the council in the aftermath of Winter Storm Uri, which significantly impacted the state's energy infrastructure; he concluded his interim responsibilities with ERCOT on November 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones served on the board of directors of both ERCOT and NYISO and also held membership in the Gulf Coast Power Association and the FutureGen Industrial Alliance; active in a number of philanthropic initiatives, he was a board member for the March of Dimes, Atlas Scholars, and the St. Peter's Health Foundation; to honor his legacy, the Brad Jones Engineering Scholarship has been established at his undergraduate alma mater, Texas Tech University; and

WHEREAS, Although the passing of Brad Jones is a profound loss to all who were privileged to know him, his dedicated work greatly influenced the energy industry in Texas and beyond, and his contributions will continue to be remembered and admired for many years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of Brad Jones and extend heartfelt sympathy to his family, friends, and former colleagues; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Brad Jones.

JOHNSON	HANCOCK	PARKER
ALVARADO	HINOJOSA	PAXTON
BETTENCOURT	HUFFMAN	PERRY
BIRDWELL	HUGHES	SCHWERTNER
BLANCO	KING	SPARKS
CAMPBELL	KOLKHORST	SPRINGER
CREIGHTON	LAMANTIA	WEST
ECKHARDT	MENÉNDEZ	WHITMIRE
FLORES	MIDDLETON	ZAFFIRINI
GUTIERREZ	MILES	
HALL	NICHOLS	

**In Memory
of
Laura Lewis
Senate Resolution 69**

WHEREAS, The untimely passing of Laura Lewis of San Angelo on November 28, 2023, has brought a profound loss to her family and to her many dear friends and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, A San Angelo native, Laura Lewis graduated from Angelo State University before enjoying a successful 25-year career with Delta Air Lines; she also honed her skills in event management through her work in the Park City, Utah, area; and

WHEREAS, In 2017, Ms. Lewis's success as the membership coordinator for the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce led to her being promoted to vice president of member relations for the organization; she was subsequently hired as the district director for State Senator Charles Perry, and she performed her duties in that role with skill and dedication for nearly six years; and

WHEREAS, Deeply committed to her community, Ms. Lewis served on the advisory council of the San Angelo Clubhouse, an organization devoted to supporting and empowering adults with mental illness; she further distinguished herself through her contributions to the United Way and the San Angelo Pachyderm Club, which she previously led as president; and

WHEREAS, Laura Lewis demonstrated a passion for life and a steadfast commitment to the causes in which she believed, and although she will be greatly missed, her legacy will continue to inspire all those who were privileged to know her; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Laura Lewis and extend heartfelt condolences to all who mourn her passing; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Laura Lewis.

PERRY

